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New York (State) Laws,
Statutes, etc.
Dancing Academies.

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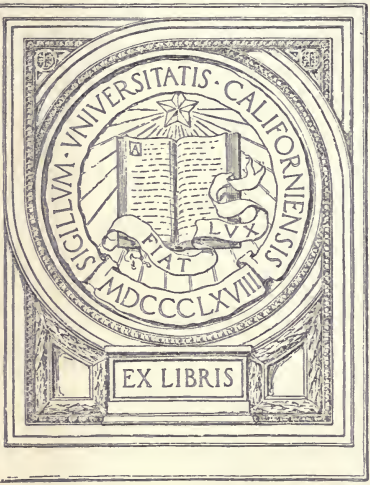

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LAWS OF NEW YORK.—By Authority.

CHAP. 400.

AN ACT to amend the Greater New York Charter, in relation to regulating and licensing public dancing academies.

Became a law May 19, 1909, with the approval of the Governor. Passed, three-fifths being present.

Accepted by the City.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The Greater New York charter, as reenacted by chapter four hundred and sixty-six of the laws of nineteen hundred and one, is hereby amended by adding after section fourteen hundred and eighty-seven, seven new sections, to be sections fourteen hundred and eighty-eight, fourteen hundred and eighty-nine, fourteen hundred and ninety, fourteen hundred and ninety-one, fourteen hundred and ninety-two, fourteen hundred and ninety-three and fourteen hundred and ninety-four thereof, to read, respectively, as follows:

§ 1488. The words "public dancing academy," when used in this act, shall be taken to mean:

1. Any room or place in the city of New York in which dancing is taught and which is designated, advertised or held out by advertisements, signs, placards or public notices of any kind, as a dancing school,

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dancing academy, dancing class, school for dancers, or place where dancing is taught; and

2. In which payment is made for instruction or to which admission can be had by paying for instruction or for the right to be admitted, or to which admission can be had by the purchase, possession or presentation of a ticket or token, or in which a charge is made for the caring for clothing or other property.

§ 1489. No public dancing academy shall be conducted nor shall dancing be taught or permitted in any public dancing academy unless it shall be licensed pursuant to this act and the license be in force and not suspended. Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

§ 1490. All public dancing academies shall be licensed by the mayor or other licensing authority of the city of New York; the fee for each such license shall be fifty dollars for each year or fraction thereof. All licenses issued on or between the first day of April and the thirtieth day of September of any year shall expire on the thirty-first day of March of the succeeding year. All licenses issued on or between the first day of October and the thirty-first day of March of any year shall expire on the thirtieth day of September of the succeeding year. *No license shall be issued unless the place for which it is issued complies with all laws, ordinances, rules and the provisions of any building code applicable thereto,* and is a *safe* and *proper* place for the purpose for which it shall be used, properly *ventilated* and supplied with sufficient *toilet conveniences.*

§ 1491. *No license shall be issued until the licensing authority shall have received a written report of*

an inspector and of the bureaus and departments having supervision over the building or premises to be licensed or the construction thereof, that it complies with all applicable laws, ordinances, rules and provisions of building code. No license shall be renewed except after reinspection by the licensing authority. Additional inspection of every licensed dancing academy may be made under the direction of the licensing authority. All inspectors shall be permitted to have access to all public dancing academies at all reasonable times and whenever they are open for dancing, instruction in dancing or for any other purpose. Inspectors shall be required to report all violations. All reports shall be in writing and shall be filed and made matters of public record.

§ 1492. No liquors shall be sold, served or given away in any public dancing academy, or in any room connected therewith or on the same floor of the building. The word "liquors" as used in this section shall be construed as defined in the liquor tax law of this state.

§ 1493. The license of any public dancing academy shall be forfeited on conviction of any person for violation of section fourteen hundred and ninety-two of this act, or upon the conviction of any person for violation of section four hundred and eighty-four or section eleven hundred and forty-six of the penal law in or with respect to the premises of any public dancing academy. The license of any public dancing academy may be revoked by the licensing authority whenever the licensed premises do not comply with section fourteen hundred and ninety of this act, provided that the licensee or persons in charge shall be

served with a copy of the report or complaint and shall have the right to a public hearing.

§ 1494. The mayor or licensing authority of the city of New York, may appoint such inspectors and other officials necessary to carry out the provisions of this act as may be authorized by the board of estimate and apportionment of said city or other authority having the right to appropriate public moneys. The money paid for licenses under this act shall be applied toward the payment of the salaries of the inspectors appointed hereunder. Any deficiency and any other expense of carrying this act into effect until appropriation can be made therefor shall be met by the issue of revenue bonds of the city.

§ 2. This act shall take effect September thirtieth, nineteen hundred and nine.

STATE OF NEW YORK,
Office of the Secretary of State. } *ss.:*

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original law.

SAMUEL S. KOENIG,
Secretary of State.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

BUREAU OF BUILDINGS, BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN,

governing the erection and conversion of buildings to be used for the purpose of Moving Picture Shows, DANCING ACADEMIES, Music Halls or any other public entertainment for the accommodation of not more than three hundred persons

Before the erection, construction or alteration of any such building, or part thereof, there must be filed with the Superintendent of Buildings, complete plans and detailed statement as set forth in section 4 of the Building Code.

The plans must show clearly and fully the location and width of all exits, passageways, stairs, fire escapes, aisles, etc.; the arrangement of seats; size of floor beams, wall, supports, etc.; the location and construction of the enclosure for the moving picture light and machinery or for other similar apparatus; a diagram of the lot or plot, showing outlets from all exits and also such other detailed statements, plans or other details as may be required by the Superintendent of Buildings, and if such house is a tenement house, permit from the tenement house department must be obtained.

EXITS.—All such buildings must be provided with at least two separate exits, remote from each

other, and leading to direct and positive outlets. The width in the clear of each such exit must be at least 4 feet for buildings accommodating 100 persons or less; 4 feet 6 inches in the clear where more than 100 and not over 200 persons are accommodated; 5 feet in the clear for over 200 and not more than 300; or in lieu of the increased width there may be provided an additional exit not less than 2 feet 6 inches in width in the clear.

All exit doors must be made to open outwardly and in such a way as not to obstruct any passageway.

GALLERY.—If there is to be a gallery, there must be provided from said gallery at least one line of interior stairs and one line of outside fire escapes, remote from each other. All doors leading to fire escape must be not less than 3 feet in the clear.

STAIRS.—The width in the clear of all stairs must be at least 3 feet where they accommodate 50 persons or less; 4 feet in the clear where above 50 and not more than 100 persons; 4 feet 6 inches in the clear for over 100 and not more than 150 persons; 5 feet in the clear for over 150 and not more than 200 persons; 5 feet 6 inches in the clear for over 200 and not more than 250 persons and 6 feet in the clear for over 250 and not more than 300 persons; or in lieu of the increased width there may be provided an additional stair providing that the width in the clear of each stair is not less than 4 feet.

FIRE ESCAPES.—All fire escapes must have balconies not less than 3 feet in the clear in width, and not less than 4 feet 6 inches long, and from said balconies there shall be staircases extending to the ground level; with a rise of not over 8½ inches and a step

of not less than 8½ inches, and the width of each stairs must be not less than 3 feet. All fire escapes must be built of fireproof material.

Proscenium Wall.—A fire wall shall separate the auditorium from the stage, and said wall shall extend the full height of the auditorium. Said wall must be constructed of approved fireproof material, or may be constructed of wooden studs covered on both sides with either sheet iron, metal lath and plaster or ½-inch plaster boards. All openings in said wall shall have fireproof self-closing doors.

Curtain, Scenery, Etc.—All curtains, sceneries, drops, etc., must be treated with at least one good coat of fire resisting paint, approved by the Superintendent of Buildings.

Sign Over Exits.—Every exit must have over the same on the inside the word EXIT painted in legible letters, not less than 8 inches high.

Lights.—Every portion of the building devoted to the uses or accommodation of the public, also all outlets leading to the streets, and including the courts and corridors, must be well and properly lighted during every performance, and the same must remain lighted until the entire audience has left the premises. There must be one red light placed over each exit, on the inside.

Seats.—All seats in the auditorium, excepting those contained in boxes, must be not less than 28 inches from back to back, measured in a horizontal direction. No seat in the auditorium shall have more than seven seats intervening between it and an aisle, on either side.

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Storage Room.—Any room located within any portion of the building devoted to the uses or accommodation of the public, used for storage purposes, or workshop, or property room, shall be enclosed with walls or partitions constructed in the same manner as herein specified for proscenium wall.

Ceiling.—The ceiling directly under the auditorium floor must be plastered or covered with metal.

Moving Picture Apparatus.—Where the calcium lights are used for moving pictures, or other purposes, and where specially hazardous lights or apparatus are used for any purposes whatsoever, all the supports and enclosures used for said apparatus must be either constructed of fireproof material, or wood covered on all sides and edges with metal and adequate provision must be made for the protection of both property and life.

Floor Loads.—Any portion of the floor of the building devoted to the uses or accommodation of the public, must be of sufficient strength to safely bear a live load of 90 pounds per superficial foot.

Aisles.—All aisles on the respective floors in the auditorium must be not less than 2 feet 6 inches wide in the clear where they accommodate 50 persons or less, and the width of such aisles must be increased one inch for every ten persons over 50.

Gradients.—To overcome any difference of level in and between courts, corridors, lobbies, passages and aisles, gradients of not over one foot in eight feet or steps having a rise of not over 8½ and a width of not less than 10 inches must be used.

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